



PRESS RELEASE Arizona State Senate

1700 W Washington Street, Phoenix, AZ 85007

Senator Carlyle W. Begay, LD7

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 5, 2014

Begay statement on passing of Chester Nez

Nez was last original Navajo Code Talker

STATE CAPITOL, PHOENIX - Senator Carlyle W. Begay released the following statement on the passing of Chester Nez, the last original Code Talker. He was 93.

"With the passing of Chester Nez, the Navajo people, Arizona and the nation have lost the last of an historic generation," said Sen. Begay.

"As a member of the all-Navajo 382nd Marine Platoon, Mr. Nez and his fellow Code Talkers played a crucial role in defeating the Japanese through their resourcefulness and bravery. The Navajo Code Talkers should also be recognized for giving a portion of our culture - the language of our people.

We are grateful for their service and will honor their legacy with the first annual Arizona Navajo Code Talkers' Day on August 14th."

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